

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY



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MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
FOR THE BLIND AND
PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED
1515 EAST SIXTH AVE.
HELENA, MT 59620
406-444-2064
1-800-332-3400

Bits of Gold

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

APR 11 1992

SUMMER, 1992

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
1515 E. 6th AVE.
HELENA, MONTANA 59620

ANSWERING MACHINE

To serve our patrons after 5:00 p.m. and on week-ends and holidays, we have installed an answering machine. If you call and get our recorded message, please **DON'T HANG UP!** The machine will allow you to leave your full name, phone number, and a brief message.



OVERDUE NOTICE

Because of the growing number of patron requests, it has become necessary for us to set and enforce a loan policy. The loan period to individuals is two months, and three months for hospitals, nursing homes, etc.

If you receive an overdue notice, please search for the book; if you

can't find it, call and let us know. We will double-check our shelves and records.

MAKING REQUESTS

A reminder to those of you who receive magazine subscriptions from CMLS in Florida--CMLS is only a mailing operation. All correspondence concerning magazines should be sent to the library. If a magazine or Talking Book Topic is returned to CMLS, they will cancel your subscription. Do not send book request lists to CMLS or to The National Library Service. They return them to us, which causes a delay of a month or more before we can enter your requests.

Please staple or tape closed the Talking Book Topic order booklet when you send us orders. This will assure they won't come apart or be damaged in the mail. Also be sure you put your name on all requests sent in.



MACHINE HINTS AND PROBLEMS

The best way to extend the life of the cassette player's rechargeable battery is to charge and discharge it regularly. This means that the machine should not be plugged in all the time. At least once a week, unplug the machine and play it on the battery. Many patrons plug the machine in at night and play it on the battery during the day. Following either of these procedures will keep the machine working longer.

You can clean the heads of your cassette machine with a Q-tip and rubbing alcohol to try to improve the quality of the sound. If the sound fades on your record player (TBM) or if the needle skips, the needle cartridge may need replacing. Call us for a new needle cartridge. Do not shut the lid of the TBM while the needle is on the record. This will damage the record.

Do not try to repair or oil your machines yourself. We have trained volunteers to do this job for us. Notify us if you need a replacement machine since we do not automatically send replacement machines.

Clean the surface of the machines with a cloth, dampened with 409 or other all-purpose cleaner. Try not to have food or beverages near the machines.

When a machine is loaned to you, its serial number is recorded and charged to your name. Therefore, it is important that you do not swap machines with others who use this service. Never trade, give away, or sell your machines! They are the property of the U.S. Government and are only on loan to you.

Most important: If you have questions or problems with your machines or service, call us first. This helps us to serve you faster and more efficiently.

HEADPHONES

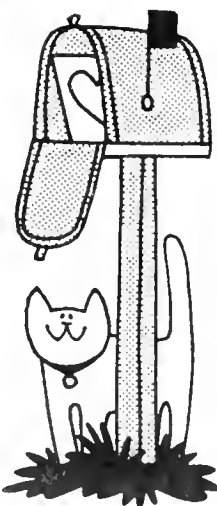
National Library Service (NLS) is no longer producing headphones and pillow phones, so they are no longer available for general distribution. If you have accessories which you are no longer using, please return them so that others in need may use these items.



POSTAL REGULATIONS

The following guidelines from the U.S. Postal Service should assist

you in avoiding difficulties with the mail:

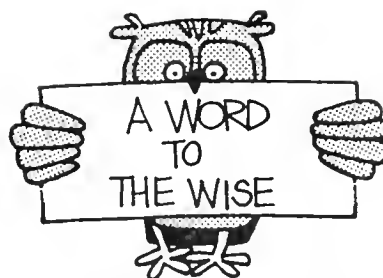


1. Leave the envelope unsealed; fold the flap in to secure your order form in the envelope.
2. "Free Matter for the Blind" placed in the upper right hand corner of the envelope. This may be printed, typed, or rubber stamped on the envelope.
3. Handwritten letters or those not typed in a large type are ineligible for free mailing and must have the proper postage affixed.

PROBLEM CASSETTES

Remember the cassettes are recorded on four sides; in order to hear sides three and four, the side selector switch must be moved to the right after side two has played. This switch is found on the right side of the machine in the middle. Listen for the instructions at the end of each side.

Identify problem books by placing a string or rubber band around the individual cassette. Problem disks can be left out of the inside dust jacket. Do not tie a string or rubber band on the outside of the case as it may get caught in the post office's equipment.



THINGS YOU CAN DO FOR BETTER SERVICE

Return books to us as soon as you have finished reading them so they can then be sent to other patrons.

If you receive a damaged cassette, call the library for a replacement book.

Do not lend books to others. If they don't return them, you are still responsible.

If you receive too many or too few books, just call us so we can adjust your file.

If you have changed your address, your name, or the kinds of things you like to read, call us so we can keep our records up-to-date and your service running smoothly.

Cassette magazine readers:

Magazines with a mailing card need to be returned after you have read them. To receive the next issue of a cassette magazine, return each issue as you complete it. You will not get the newest

issue until the older issue is returned.



VACATION TIME

If you are leaving on a trip this summer and want extra books to read, let us know. If you do not want to receive books while you are gone, we can put your file on hold. Let us know when you want to start receiving books again.



ELECTION INFORMATION

The library will have the Voter Information Pamphlet available on tape before the General Election this fall. This pamphlet is produced by the Secretary of State's office. We will provide you with more information on this in our fall newsletter.

RADIO READING SERVICE

Radio Reading Services in Billings and Missoula provide access to many local newspapers and magazines by reading them over the radio. You need a special radio receiver to hear the programs, but it is free of charge.

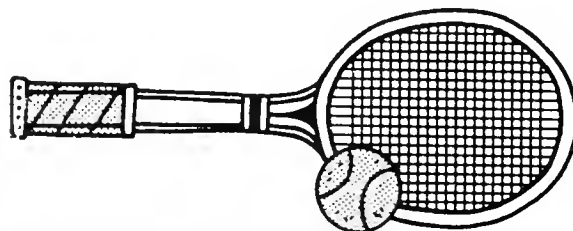
For more information, call one of the toll-free numbers listed below.

1-800-443-4337 in Billings

1-800-942-7323 in Missoula

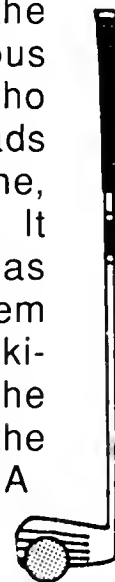
FYI - For Your Information

The American Foundation for the Blind operates a toll-free hot line to answer questions about blindness, services, technology, and publications available to blind and visually impaired persons. The hot line operates Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time). Call 1-800-232-5463. The number for information on consumer products is 1-800-829-0500.



RECREATION

"On the Move in the Great Outdoors—Mobile Recreation for the Blind" is a cassette listing various techniques for blind people who want to walk along country roads and paths using the long cane, guide dog, or sighted guide. It also covers such activities as backpacking, trail hiking, tandem bicycling, and cross-country skiing. To order, send \$5.00 to the Massachusetts Association for the Blind, 200 Ivy St., Brookline, MA 02146. Phone 617-738-5110.



Products to Assist the Disabled Sportsman is a free catalog featuring reels, fishing tackle, rod holders, vests harnesses, and more. J.L. Pachner, Ltd., 33012 Lighthouse Court, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675.

IDEA (Innovator of Disability Equipment and Adaptations) is a magazine featuring fishing reels, rod holders, gun supports, and independent living accessories. 1393 Meadowcreek Drive, Suite 2, Pewaukee, WI 53072.



DISABLED OUTDOORS is a quarterly magazine offering information on products, services, and techniques on fishing, camping, hunting and boating. \$8/year; \$15/two years. Disabled Outdoors magazine, 5223 S. Lorel Avenue, Chicago, IL 60638.

TRAVELIN' TALK is a new information network that assists travelers with disabilities. Membership is free and is not limited to the disabled. Information is available from: Travelin' Talk, P.O. Box 3534, Clarksville, TN 37043-3534 or by calling 615-358-2503.

FEELING SPORTS MAGAZINE, published by the Braille Sports Foundation, is available in large print or on cassette. It is free of

charge and promotes recreation and sports for the visually impaired. To be put on the mailing list contact: Feeling Sports Magazine, Braille Sports Foundation, 4601 Excelsior Avenue South, St. Louis Park, MN 55416. Telephone: 612-920-9363

WHEELCHAIR-FRIENDLY PICNIC TABLES: To help those in wheelchairs enjoy their summer picnic, Outdoors Forever has made available plans for building "wheelchair-friendly" picnic tables. For a copy, write to Outdoors Forever, 746 East Erie Road, Temperance, MI 48182.

The Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped does not endorse any of the above products or services and cannot be responsible for the reliability of products or services mentioned.



DONATIONS

The Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped gratefully accepts donations. Donations are the one thing that keeps our Montana Cassette Books Program alive. Donations can be made to the Montana State Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, 1515 East Sixth Ave., Helena, MT 59620. For further information, call 1-800-332-3400.

NEW FACE AT THE LIBRARY

Rita Gibson joined the staff of the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped in December as the circulation clerk. Rita, with the help of our wonderful volunteers, is responsible for the comings and goings of the 10,000 books we circulate each month. She makes sure out-going books are pulled, checked out and mailed and in-coming books are received, rewound, checked in and shelved. Rita works from 8 a.m. to noon; this position was originally full-time but was reduced to half-time by the 8% budget reduction last year.

LIBRARY RECEIVES BEQUEST

The library received a generous bequest in February from Hazel Chamberlain. Hazel was a retired school administrator from Red Lodge who was living in Tempe, AZ, at the time of her death. To the best of our knowledge, Hazel had never been one of our patrons but evidently knew of our service and felt it to be worthwhile. The library operates on an extremely limited budget, and last year's mandatory 8% budget cuts made our tight budget even more so. This welcome bequest will be used to update some of the computers which run the automated circulation system as well as help us to continue the Montana Cassette Book Program.

LIBRARY STAFF PARTICIPATES IN CONFERENCES

It has been a busy spring for the staff here at the library. Various members of our staff have participated in the Montana Library Association Conference, the 1992 Montana Special Education Conference, the conference of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, the Montana Association for the Blind's annual conference, and finally, the Low Vision Seminar held June 4-6 in Great Falls. We are all 'home' now and probably won't be going much for another year. Numerous benefits are gained from attending these conferences. It gives people an opportunity to meet us and learn about the service. It gives us the chance to spread the word about how we can help folks. It is a wonderful learning experience both on the more formal level of lectures and workshops and on the less formal level of meeting, interacting and learning from patrons and colleagues. We are always striving toward our end goal of providing better service to you, our patrons.



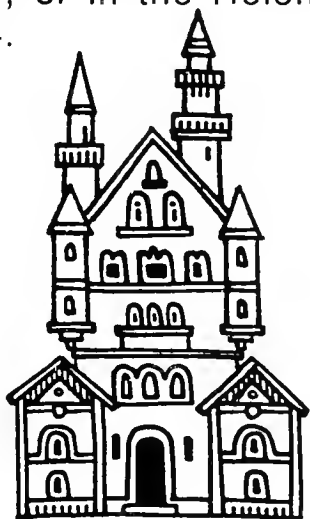


SUMMER READING PROGRAM

The Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped is holding its first summer reading program June 15th through August 14th.

The theme of the program is "Dragon Tales." There will be three age groups: 4-7 years, 8-11 years, and 12-14 years. By reading books throughout the summer, or having books read to them, children will be able to earn prizes.

Any book read between June and August of 1992 will count toward a prize. To register or for more information, please call toll-free 1-800-332-3400, or in the Helena area 444-2064.



VOLUNTEERS

At our annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon on May 15th, the staff of the Library for the Blind presented two plaques inscribed with the names of volunteers who have given five years or more of service. On one plaque are the names of volunteers who have worked in circulation and recorded books, and on the other, names of Telephone Pioneers who repair our machines and cassettes. Both plaques will be displayed permanently in the Library for the Blind. In 1991, our dedicated volunteers donated over 10,600 hours of service. This equals the work of four additional full-time employees!



Included in this newsletter is a large print, self-sticking label with our phone number on it. It can be placed on or near your phone for your convenience.

THE LAST BEST PLACE

It's done! Three years in the making!! THE LAST BEST PLACE is finally on cassette tape. It took many hours of volunteer help and dedication to get this anthology to you. Each section of the eight-section book is a separate MCB number. They start with MCB 60 and go through MCB 67.

MCB UPDATE

The following titles have been added to our Montana books collection and are available for checkout:

MCB 57 AS SHADOWS ON THE HILLS, by Dorothy Weston Larson. Four stories about Montana women, 1c.

MCB 60 THE LAST BEST PLACE, Section 1, "Native American Stories and Myths." Edited by William Kittredge & Annick Smith, 1c.



MCB 61 THE LAST BEST PLACE, Section 2, "Journals of Exploration," 2c.

MCB 62 THE LAST BEST PLACE, Section 3, "Stories of Early Pioneers and Indians," 2c.

MCB 63 THE LAST BEST PLACE, Section 4, "Writings About Butte," 1c.

MCB 64 THE LAST BEST PLACE, Section 5, "Remembering the Agricultural Frontier," 1c.

MCB 65 THE LAST BEST PLACE, Section 6, "Literature of Modern Montana," 2c.

MCB 66 THE LAST BEST PLACE, Section 7, "Contemporary Fiction," 3c.

MCB 67 THE LAST BEST PLACE, Section 8, "Contemporary Poetry," 1c.

MCB 76 WEST OF OMAHA, by Les Wayne. Montana western, 1c.

MCB 77 PROSPECTING FOR GOLD, by Granville Stuart. Montana history, 2c.

MCB 80 **LIZZIE**, by Elizabeth Chester Fiske. Autobiography.

MCB 81 **TALL IN THE SADDLE**, by Gary Wilson. The story of "Long George" Francis, 2c.

MCB 82 **SHADOW ON THE RANGE**, by Norman Fox. Montana western, 2c.

MCB 83 **YELLOWSTONE KELLY**, by M.M. Quaife. Montana biography, 2c.

MCB 84 **THEY LEFT THEIR TRACKS**, by Howard Copenhaver. Outfitting in the Bob Marshall Wilderness, 2c.



MCB 85 **SADDLEBAG YARNS**, by Byron Grosefield. Anecdotes.

MCB 86 **THE OLD COPPER COLLAR**, by Dan Cushman. Novel about turn-of-the-century Montana politics, 1c.

MCB 87 **DR. NORTON'S WIFE**, by Mildred Walker. Montana novel, 2c.

MCB 88 **NIGHT PASSAGE**, by Norman Fox. Montana western, 2c.

MCB 89 **A BRIDE GOES WEST**, by Nannie T. Alderson. Autobiography, 1c.

MCB 91 **THE WAY TO MY DESTINY**, by Henry Jorgensen. Autobiography, 1c.

MCB 92 **THE LOG OF A COWBOY**, by Andy Adams. Early cowboy life, 2c.

MCB 93 **GREETINGS FROM WISDOM, MONTANA**, by Ruth Rudner. Reflections on contemporary life in Montana, 1c.

MCB 95 **FORTY YEARS GATHERIN'S**, by Spike Van Cleve. Autobiography, 2c.

MCB 96 LETTERS ON AN ELK HUNT, by Elinore Pruitt Stewart. Homesteading in frontier days, 1c.

MCB 100 RED FOX OF THE KINAPOO, by William Rush.

MCB 101 CUSTER'S LUCK, by Edgar Stewart. Montana history, biography, 4c.

MCB 102 THE RIPPER FROM RAWHIDE, by Dan Cushman. Montana western, 1c.

MCB 103 BADLANDS JUSTICE, by Dan Cushman. Montana novel, 2c.

MCB 107 GHOSTLY HOOFBEATS, by Norman Fox. Montana western, 1c.

MCB 111 DOWNRIVER, A YELLOWSTONE JOURNEY, by Dean Krakel. History and travelogue, 2c.

MCB 112 LOVE IS A GENTLE STRANGER, by June Masters Bascher. Montana romance, 1c.

MCB 113 ROPE THE WIND, by Norman Fox. Montana western, 1c.

MCB 114 THE BREAKING OF EZRA RILEY, by John L. Moore. Montana novel, 2c.

MCB 115 QUARTZVILLE, by Frank Linderman. Montana history, 2c.



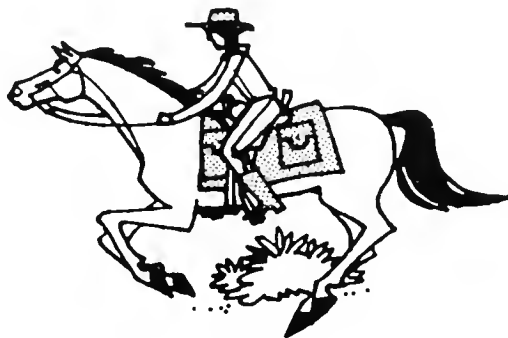
MCB 119 THE TREMBLING HILLS, by Norman Fox. Montana western, 2c.

MCB 121 DIGGING DINOSAURS, by Jack Horner. Natural history, 2c.

MCB 123 RIDING THE HIGH COUNTRY, by Patrick Tucker. Montana history, 1c.

MCB 125 GO WITH HASTE INTO THE MOUNTAINS, by Cornelia M. Flaherty. Catholic Church in Montana.

- MCB 139 SILENT SEASONS, by Russell Chatham. Nonfiction fishing stories, 2c.
- MCB 142 SPIRIT WOLF, by Gary Svee. Montana novel, 1c
- MCB 156 UP NORTH IS DOWN THE CREEK & IT'S JUST GRASS AND WATER, by Wallace McCrae. Cowboy poetry, 1c.
- MCB 182 AMERICAN PLACES, by Wallace Stegner. American life, 2c.
- MCB 184 THAT GIRL MONTANA, by Mara Ellis Ryan. Novel, 2c.
- MCB 186 SADDLE UP AND RIDE, by Jim Ross. Cowboy poetry, 1c.
- MCB 187 THE WAY WE WERE, by Henry Jorgensen. Autobiography.
- MCB 189 THE RAINBOW TRAIL, by Zane Gray. Western, 2c.
- MCB 194 WE MONTANANS, by Norma Tirrell. Contemporary Montana life, 1c.
- MCB 195 SO LONG COWBOYS OF THE OPEN RANGE, by Truman Cheney. Montana history, 1c.



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